

Copy of letter send to Sir John B.S.
in reply to first letter.

G. R. O.

1, West Franklin Street,
Baltimore.

[*Monday* June] 21st (*Monday*)

Dear Sir John,

He has gone to London
On my ~~return~~ from Boston this morning I found your letter of the 8th. inst. I feel highly flattered that my name should be mentioned in connection with the Chair. I am sorry that so good a man as Ritchie should be passed over. There are so many things to be considered that I cabled you asking if an immediate decision was wanted or whether I could confer with you upon the question in Oxford. In many ways I should like to be considered a candidate, while very happy here and with splendid facilities, probably unequalled in English speaking countries. I am overworked and find it increasingly hard to serve the public and carry on my teaching. I have been in harness actively for thirty years, and have been looking forward to the time when I could ease myself of some of the burdens I carry at present. With the income for my book, we have a comfortable competency, so that I am in a measure independent.

My only doubt relates to the somewhat relative duties of the chair. I am interested in clinical teaching, am fond of it and have acquired a certain aptitude for bed side work which gives me a certain value in the profession. I should miss sadly the daily contact with the students, unless I could arrange for clinical work in London. On the other hand I have a mass of unfinished literary material on hand which the academic leisure of a new place would enable me to complete.

Thanks for your kind invitation. Mrs. Osler does not accompany me. I have already accepted an offer from the Dean of Christ Church.

With sincere regard to you and Lady Sanderson.

Yours,

W. O.